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Timeline of Treaties and Removals in Western Oregon

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1850 June, the **First treaty in the North West Coast and West Coast**, a Treaty of Peace negotiated with General Joseph Lane and the Takelma- Rogue River Tribes lead by Chief Apserkahar (Chief Jo) at Table Rock.

1851 Anson Dart Treaties, Nineteen Treaties unratified

Champoeg Treaties- Willame e Valley Treaty Commission

1851, April 11 to April 16, *Treaty with the Santiam Band of Calapooia*., The first meeting to purchase lands of the tribes in the North West Coast and West Coast, at Champoeg between the Willame e Valley Treaty Commission and the Santiam band of Kalapuyans. They conclude on April 16th. Five days of meetings end with the agreement to the sale of their lands and a small Santiam Reservation between the north and south forks of the Santiam River. [unratified]

Proposed Santiam Reservation 1851

1851, April 17 to April 19, *Treaty with the Twalaty Band of Calapooia*. The Willame e Valley Treaty Commission negotiated the sale of their lands and a permanent reservation around Wapato Lake. [Unratified]

Section of Gibbs Starling Map, 1851, showing Proposed Yamhill reservation and entry to Grand Ronde Valley

1851 April 24 to May 2, *Treaty with the Yam-Kill*, The Yamhill band negotiates the sale of their lands and a permanent reservation in Gopher Valley east of the Cascade Range. This negotiation is extremely long as the Yamhills do not want to leave the graves of their relatives to be destroyed by the whites. They relent with promises of seven houses, that their graves would be bought by the federal government, that they can still leave the reservation to gather camas and wapatoos. In 1852, they send word that they would also like help with getting agricultural tools and help with farming. [unratified]

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1851 April 30 to May 2, *Treaty with the Luckiamiute*. Negotiated the sale of their lands. they refuse to remove beyond the Cascades mountains emphatically. The place they choose for their reservation only had one white man and they agreed he can remain. [unratified]

1851 proposed Luckimiute Reservation, note location of Simpson's Ferry, Section of Gibbs and Starling Map

1851, May 3 to May 6, *Treaty with the Molala*. At Champoeg the negotiated sale of the northern Molala territory, and the establishment of a large permanent reservation. [unratified]

1851, May 3 to May 7, *Treaty with the Santiam Band of Moolala Indians*. At Champoege the negotiated sale of the Molalla lands and establishment of a permanent reservation. This tribe is distinct from the Northern Molalla, north, of them and they are northeast of the Santiam Band of Calapooians. [unratified]

Tansey Point Treaties- **Anson Dart, Superintendent – arrangements by Robert Shortess, sub-Indian agent**

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1851 August 4-August 5, *Treaty with the Clatsop*, Meeting with the Clatsop at Tansey Point with Anson Dart and Henry H. Spalding Indian Agent, and Josiah L. Parrish. Robert Shortess arranges for the meetings with the tribes. Establishes a large reservation on the coast at Point Adams and to the south. The treaty is concluded on August 5th. [unratified]

1851 August 6, *Treaty with the Naalem Band of Tillamook Indians*. The negotiated sale of their lands. [unratified]

1851 August 7, *Treaty with the Tillamook Tribe of Indians*, the negotiated sale of their lands. [unratified]

1851 August 7, *Treaty with the Nuc-que-clah-we-muck Band of Chinook*. There was one man remaining of this tribe, Wallooskee. [unratified]

1851 August 8, *Treaty with the Waukikum Tribe of Chinook*, The negotiated sale of their land north of the Columbia. They maintain the right to live in their residences, fish, and hunt. [unratified]

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1851, August 8, *Treaty with the Konnaack tribe of Chinook Indians*, Anson Dart negotiated the sale of their lands. This Tribe is also known at the Skilloot tribe and held land on both sides of the Columbia. They maintain the right to live in their residences and hunt.[unratified]

1851, August 9, *Treaty with the Lower Chinook Band*, Anson Dart negotiate the sale of their lands. They maintain the right to fish, hunt and gather berries, and remain living in their houses. [unratified]

1851, August 9, *Treaty with the Kathlamet Tribe of Chinook*, negotiate the sale of their lands. They maintain the right to hunt and live in the town called Old Kathlamet town. [unratified]

1851, August 9, *Treaty with the Wheelappa and Quillequequa tribes of Chinook Indians*. This treaty is a bit more complex, they gain education and a blacksmith, have to retire back to their land cession, and will share their area with the Cheehales tribe. The Quillequequa tribe is added at the end of the treaty. [unratified]

1851, August 9, *Treaty with the Klatskania of Chinook Indians*. They maintain the right to live in their places of residence and fish and hunt. The Americans appear to have mistakenly added “Chinook Indians” in the title when the tribe was not Chinook Indians but athapaskan speaking natives.[unratified]

Port Orford Treaties- Anson Dart

1851, September 19-September 20, Anson Dart Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Henry H. Spalding Indian Agent and Josiah L. Parrish Sub Indian Agent with the Chiefs and headmen of the You-quee-chae, Qua-tou-wah and To-to-tan (or Rogue River) bands of Indians. The meeting is held at Port Orford. The tribes are allowed to remain in their houses for the remainder of their lives. [unratified]

1851, September 20, *Treaty with the Ya-su-chah band of Indians* at Port Orford, began and concluded in the same day. They may keep their houses and fishing rights. [unratified]

Oregon City- Anson Dart

1851, November 5 – November 6, *Treaty with the Clackamas*, The last treaty of 1851 in Oregon Territory, Meeting with the Clackamas Tribe and Anson Dart, negotiating the sale of their lands. They are allowed to stay in their houses for the remainder of their lives, and fish in their usual manner, unmolested on the Clackamas River. This negotiation was a continuation of several meetings in which the tribe refused to give up certain properties and then finally decided to cede their lands. This is the most populous area and the most valuable area of Oregon at this time. [unratified]

1851 Treaties Conclusion

The nineteen 1851 Oregon treaties were taken to Washington, D.C. by Anson Dart. Dart never returns to Oregon and remains in the capital for a few years. In 1852, Dart consults extensively with Congressmen about the treaties. Dart supplies an argument for not ratifying them suggesting that the Willamette Valley treaties were illegitimate because the Willamette Valley Commissioners were not appropriately representative of the federal government and that they had allowed for reservations for the tribes in the

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valley when all of the lands were already claimed by American settlers. It would have then been too costly to buy the land back from the settlers. The treaties are introduced to Congress on August 3, 1852. Dart’s arguments, and complaints by settlers who heard that the reservations that would be established within their area reach Congress and the treaties are tabled forever by the politicians. Dart is forced to resign as Oregon Indian Superintendent.

Joel Palmer’s Western Oregon Treaties 1853-1855, Seven ratified, Two unratified

1853, September 8, *Treaty of Peace with the Rogue River*, a Cease Fire, between the Rogue River Bands of Chief Apserkahar (Chief Jo) and Chief Sam and General Joseph Lane.

Belden Map 1855, section of Table Rock Reservation, NARA

1853, September 10, *Treaty with the Rogue River Tribes*, negotiated with Joel Palmer, for the sale of their lands and removal to a permanent reservation, with Table Rock Reservation being temporary. Ratified April 12, 1854 (First ratification date for two treaties on the West coast, Rogue River and Cow Creek.)

1853, September 19, *Treaty with the Cow Creek Umpqua tribe*, Ratified April 12, 1854, A reservation is established within their territory separate from the Umpqua reservation (inland), the Cow Creek Umpqua Reservation. The Cow Creek people are removed to the Umpqua reservation in 1855 (unknown date) likely due to the Rogue River war. (First ratification date for two treaties on the West coast, Rogue River and Cow Creek.)

1854, November 15, *Treaty with the Rogue River*, ratified March 3rd, 1855. This is the second treaty from this period for the tribe, and they allow other tribes, Chasta Costas to share the Table Rock Reservation and respecify that they agree to move to a permanent reservation later.

1854, November 18, *Treaty with the Chasta*, ratified March 3rd, 1855, the Quil-si-eton and Na-hel-ta bands, of the Chasta tribe of Indians, the Cow-nan-ti-co, Sa-cher-i-ton, and Na-al-ye bands of Scotons, and the Grave Creek band of Umpquas. They move onto the Table Rock Reservation.

1854, November 29, *Treaty with the Umpqua and Kalapuya*, the tribes of the upper Umpqua River (Umpqua) and Yoncalla Kalapuyans sell their lands and remove to the temporary Umpqua reservation (Inland) with an agreement to remove to a permanent reservation later. The treaty is ratified March 3, 1855.

1854, March 25, *Treaty with the Tualatin*. Joel Palmer negotiates this treaty without instructions to do so by the Indian office. The Tualatin and Palmer meet and they air their grievances against the sellers and their situation. Palmer takes the opportunity to write a treaty but the treaty has little chance of ratification. [unratified]

Willamette Valley Treaty (Kalapuya etc. 1855) [ratified]

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from book Melville Jacobs _Kalapuya Texts_, 1945

1855 January 4, Joel Palmer at Dayton, meeting with the Tualatin, Cheluk-i-ma-uke, Yam Hill, Chep-en-a-pho, Chem-a-pho, Che-lam-e-la bands and signing of the Willame e Valley treaty.

1855, January 9, Joel Palmer at Dayton, meeting with the Molalla band of Molallas, and of the Calapooia band of Calapooias, and signing of the Willame e Valley treaty.

1855, January 10, Joel Palmer at Dayton, meeting with the Win-ne-felly, Mohawk, Chapen, and Te-co-pa bands of Calapooias, Wal-lal-lah band of Tum-waters, and the Clockamus tribe of Indians, and signing of the Willame e Valley Treaty.

1855, January 19, Joel Palmer at Linn City, meeting with the Clow-we-wal-la, or Willame e Tum-water band of Indians, and signing of the Willame e Valley

Treaty.

1855, January 22, Joel Palmer at Dayton, meeting with the Santiam Bands of Calapooias, and signing of the Willamette Valley Treaty.

1855, January 23, Willamette Valley treaty is sent to Washington, D.C. to prepare for ratification. Palmer makes notes afterward that he leaves the treaty open for more tribes from the middle Columbia to join, those from west of Sauvie Island to Oak Point. The treaty also does not settle the Multnomah and Cascades claims on the north side of the Columbia

1855, March 3, ratification of the Willamette Valley treaty

1855 March 4, begin removals of the tribes of the Willamette and Columbia to temporary reservations

Estimated boundaries of the Spores DLC and location of the Chafin village and Temporary Reservation

Coast Treaty [unratified]

1855, August 11, First Meeting for the Coast Treaty, signed by the Nachesne (Salmon river), Sile band of Tillamooks, Alsea band of Tillamooks, Yaquina band of Tillamooks, negotiated with Joel Palmer and W.W. Raymond.

1855 August 17, meeting with the Umpqua, Siuslaw and Coos Bay Indians, negotiated with E.P. Drew, R. Metcalf

1855 August 23, Meeting with the Na-so-mah or Coquille bands of Indians, negotiated with E.P. Drew

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1855 August 30, Meeting with the Tututni and Chetco Bands of Indians, negotiated with E.P. Drew

1855 September 8, Meeting with other bands of the Coquille Indians, negotiated with J. Fle

[Geary notes in his letter of October 3, 1855 that the Upper Tillamooks [Nestucca, and Tillamook proper) and Clatsops had not been party to the treaty, and Geary also notes in 1857, inaccurately, that the treaty begins at the mid-point of the Columbia River]

Coast Treaty Conclusion

The Coast Treaty is never ratified. The treaty areas stretched from the California border to the Nechesne (Salmon River) territory. The tribes faithfully honor their words and remove to reservations at Port Orford, Empire, Umpqua, and the Coast Reservation. Most of the southern Coastal tribes remain until 1877 at the coastal estuaries in sub-agencies managed by either Grand Ronde Agency, Sile Agency, Alsea agency, or Umpqua Agency. After some 17 years of waiting for the Coast treaty to be signed the tribes are released to return to their lands, only to find their former towns and houses taken over by Americans. Some natives choose to remain at Sile or Grand Ronde reservations, others leave and integrate, in part, with the American communities. The tribes who lost land without payment sue the federal government in the 20th century and some win their Indian Claims cases and receive payments.

1855, December 21, Treaty with the Molalla. These are the southern Molalla of the Umpqua Valley, this is the last treaty Palmer negotiated which is successful. The Molallans agree to the provisions in the Treaty with the Umpqua and Kalapuya (1854) as well. There is an addendum to this treaty in which the Umpquas and Kalapuyas sign and agree to the new provisions in the Molalla Treaty, which states for the first time that they will be removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. The Molallans are then removed to the temporary Umpqua Reservation for less than one month. This treaty is not ratified until March 8, 1859.

Removal Period

1853, September 19, Creation of the Cow Creek Umpqua Reservation which was likely occupied soon after their treaty negotiated. this was common for tribes to

remove to their designated reservation ahead of the final ratification. Ratified April 12, 1854, which then made finding available.

1855, October and November, Indian Agent Mcgruder working to remove tribes to the Umpqua Reservation (inland). (letter of November 7, 1855)

1855 November- Coos and other coastal tribes removed to two temporary reservations, Coos at Empire reservation, and others at Port Orford (inferred from a letter of E.P. Drew November 10, 1858)

1855 Coast Indian Reservation

1855, November 9, Creation of the Coast Indian Reservation by Presidential Executive Order of Franklin Pierce. 100 miles of the Oregon coast from Tillamook area to just south of Florence, 1.1 million acres.

1855-1856, winter, John Fle has a small encampment of Klickitats at his DLC, Chief McKay had refused to go to the encampments at Fort Vancouver or Milton and had been living on Sauvie Island with six men and their women. (Oregon Indians are Removed, Tacoma Ledger Sept 11, 1892)

1856, January 8, Palmer requests the Chiefs of the tribes at temporary encampments at Molalla, Spores, Santiam, Corvallis & Tualatin to meet him at his house in Dayton and they will go with him to Grand Ronde valley to inspect the valley so they would agree to removal. Wapatoes will come in the Spring. (Palmer to Fle, 1/8/1855 Bienneke MSS 370)

1856, January 10th –**First Trail of Tears**-Tribes at the Umpqua reservation (inland) begin walking north to Grand Ronde Reservation. (Report of R.B. Metcalf, 31st March 1856)

1856, February 2, Tribes from the Umpqua reservation (Inland) arrive at the Grand Ronde reservation. (Report of R.B. Metcalf, 31st March 1856)

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1856, N.D., Fle is ordered to the encampments at Luckiamuke, Spores, Abiqua to tell natives to remove to Grand Ronde or not get supplies (Palmer to Fle N.D 1856 Bienneke MSS 370)

1856 <Shortly after> February 2, Fle moves the Klickitats at his encampment to Grand Ronde. (Oregon Indians are Removed, Tacoma Ledger Sept 11, 1892)

Path of Rogue River Trail of Tears

1856, February 22 –**Second Trail of Tears**– Tribes at Table Rock Reservation under Chief Sam begin removal to Grand Ronde. (Letter of 1856 (no month or day) George Ambrose, to Joel Palmer, M2, reel 14)

1856, March 25th, Tribes from Table Rock Reservation arrive in Grand Ronde Reservation, (Letter of 1856 (no month or day) George Ambrose, to Joel Palmer, M2, reel 14)

1856 April 13, Joel Palmer ordered the Coos Bay Indians to go to the Umpqua River (coastal) (Palmer letter of April 13, 1856), 1856, May 27- 28- battle of Big Bend, fighting for 3-4 days and surrender of 255 Indians. (Palmer letter of 7 3 1856)

1856, May 24, Palmer plans to meet some 600 friendly Indians to arrive at Dayton the next day, from Port Orford, refugees of the Rogue River War. They are en route to the Coast Reservation to be located at the Siletz River. (letter of June 23, 1856, M234)

1856, June 13, begin marching to Port Orford from the Illinois River with 708 Indians for removal. (Palmer letter of 7 3 1856)

1856 June 21- 710 Indians sent by steamer to Grand Ronde (Schwarz, Palmer letter of 7 3 1856)

1856 July 2. Tecumtum surrenders at Fort Orford, marks the end of the Rogue River War (Schwarz marks the end with the removal of the tribes from the region, but this removal went on for another decade) (Schwarz).

1856 July 9, – **Coastal Trail of Tears**– march of Tecumtum followers, Chetco and Pistol Rivers up the coast to Coast reservation. They arrive about August 9th. (Palmer letter of 7 3 1856)

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1856 September 24, Sub-agent Drew reported, fifty-two (52) Coquille Indians arrived onto the Umpqua Reserve (coastal). (letter of 9/24/1856)

1857, June 30, Creation of the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation by Executive Order of James Buchanan. It is located in the Grand Ronde valley, a western offshoot of the Willamette Valley at the edges of the Coast Range, and surrounding mountains and hills, two quadrangles of 60,000 acres.

1856-1860, continuous removals of small bands to the Coast Reservation by either U.S. Army troops or contracted Indian catchers.

1863, June- Closure of the Umpqua Reservation (coastal) and removal of the tribes from the Reservation to estuaries on the Coast Reservation. The Coos go to Yachats.

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Coast Indian reservation reductions

1865, December 21- the reduction of the Coast Reservation by opening out the Yaquina strip for settlement. This action happened because of Americans called for more land to be available for settlement and for access to Yaquina Bay Oysters. This opening divides the reservation into two parts, the northern area managed by the Sile Agency, the southern area managed by the Alsea Agency. (Executive Order of December 21, 1865)

1875, March 3 – The reduction of the Coast Reservation by the termination of the Alsea reservation and the territory above the Salmon River. The Reservation is reduced to the area of “Lincoln County” from the Coast to the Sile Valley. The reservation is also renamed “Sile Reservation.” (Act of March 3, 1875)

1877, December, Alseas and other tribes at the former Alsea reservation remove to the Salmon River Encampment. They are promised housing and food yet get neither. Coos peoples from Yachats are released to return home but all their lands are taken. They live with the Siuslaw for a few years until they are able to move back to Coos Bay.

Conclusion

There is much more to be included. The result as we can see is the sale or taking of the tribal lands and their disenfranchisement from their resources. The final phase of this was the termination of the tribes in 1954-1956.

Most references Intext

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